

Department of Defense Authorization Act: The House completed general debate and began consideration of amendments to H.R. 1119, to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal years 1998 and 1999. **Pages H3945–H4069**

Agreed to:

The Spence amendment that incorporates portions of H.R. 1778, the Defense Reform Act, with provisions that direct various organizational, management, and business practices reforms; streamline acquisition procedures; reduce headquarters staffs by 25 percent; reduce personnel employed in acquisition and transportation organizations of the Department of Defense; mandate that certain commercial functions including finance and accounting services be competitively procured; and authorize the Navy to enter into contracts for long-term lease or charter of newly built auxiliary support vessels (agreed to by a recorded vote of 405 ayes to 14 noes Roll No. 215);

Pages H4033–49, H4067

The Spence amendment that requires prior export approval for supercomputers with a composite theoretical performance of more than 2,000 million of theoretical operations per second (MTOPS) to countries which may violate non-proliferation agreements without the approval of the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of Energy, Secretary of State, and the Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (agreed to by a recorded vote of 332 ayes to 88 noes Roll No. 216); and

Pages H4049–56, H4067–68

The Shays amendment that establishes efforts to increase defense Burdensharing and directs the President to seek from each nation with cooperative military relations with the United States to increase the payment of nonpersonnel costs for stationing U.S. military in the nation, increase its annual budgetary outlays for national defense as a percentage of gross domestic product, increase its annual outlay for foreign assistance, or increase the amount of military assets contributed to multinational military activities; and to encourage these actions, authorizes the President to reduce the level of U.S. personnel assigned to the host nation; impose fees similar to those charged to the United States; reduce U.S. contributions to NATO, and suspend, reduce or terminate bilateral security agreements. **Pages H4063–67**

Rejected:

The Sanders amendment that sought to reduce overall authorized spending levels by 5 percent, a reduction of \$13.4 billion, in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 (rejected by a recorded vote of 89 ayes to 332 noes, Roll No. 214); and

Pages H4028–33

The Harman amendment that sought to permit abortions at Defense facilities overseas for female members of the armed forces and dependents (rejected by a recorded vote of 196 ayes to 224 noes Roll No. 217);

Pages H4056–63, H4068–69

Agreed to H. Res. 169, as amended, the rule providing for consideration of the bill by a recorded vote of 322 ayes to 101 noes Roll No. 213. Pursuant to the rule, H. Res. 161, H. Res. 162, and H. Res. 165 were laid on the table.

Pages H3934–45

Earlier, by a yea-and-nay vote of 329 yeas to 94 nays, Roll No. 212, agreed to the Solomon amendment to the rule, that made in order during consideration of H.R. 1119 certain amendments: No. 7, in a modified form, offered by Representative Dellums or his designee, No. 15, in a modified form, offered by Representative Frank of Massachusetts or his designee, the last amendment in part 1 offered by Representative Everett or his designee, penultimate amendment in part 2 offered by Representative Weldon of Pennsylvania or his designee, and the last amendment in part 2 offered by Representative Traficant or his designee; and provides that the additional debate on United States forces in Bosnia shall precede the offering of amendments numbered 8 and 9 of House Report 105–137, the report accompanying the rule.

Pages H3943–45

Senate Messages: Message received today from the Senate appears on page H3926.

Referrals: S. 923, to deny veterans benefits to persons convicted of Federal capital offenses was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs. **Page H4084**

Amendments: Amendments ordered printed pursuant to the rule appear on page H4087.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H3925–26, H3933–34, H3944–45, H3945, H4032–33, H4067, H4067–68, and H4068–69. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at 11:28 p.m.

Committee Meetings

FOREST ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

Committee on Agriculture: Held a hearing on forest ecosystem health in the Inland West and Northeast. Testimony was heard from Michael Dombeck, Chief, Forest Service, USDA; Jim Hubbard, State Forester, Forest Service, State of Colorado; Phil Bryce, State Forester, Division of Forest and Lands, State of New Hampshire; Chuck Gadzik, State Forester, Forest Service, State of Maine; and public witnesses.

FINANCIAL MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Continued markup of Financial Modernization legislation.

Will continue tomorrow.

ELECTRICITY: RELIABILITY AND COMPETITION

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee On Energy and Power held a hearing on Electricity: Reliability and Competition. Testimony was heard from Susan F. Clark, Commissioner, Public Service Commission, State of Florida; and public witnesses.

NIH—CONTINUED MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing on Continued Management Concerns at the National Institutes of Health. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the NIH, Department of Health and Human Services: Harold E. Varmus, M.D., Director; and Francis Collins, M.D., Director, National Human Genome Research Institute.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT AMENDMENTS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education, Training and Life-Long Learning continued hearings on H.R. 6, Higher Education Act Amendments of 1998. Testimony was heard from Richard R. Riley, Secretary of Education.

Hearings continue June 26th.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REVITALIZATION AND SELF-GOVERNMENT IMPROVEMENT ACT

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Subcommittee on the District of Columbia approved for full Committee action the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 1596, Bankruptcy Judgeship Act of 1997; and H.R. 1953, to clarify State authority to tax compensation paid to certain employees.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing on H.R. 1596. Testimony was heard from David R. Thompson, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit and Chairman, Committee on the Administration of the Bankruptcy System, Judicial Conference; Tina L. Brozman, Chief, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Southern District of New York; Frank

W. Koger, Chief, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge, Western District of Missouri; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—BLM'S HARD ROCK MINING BONDING REGULATIONS

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held an oversight hearing on Bureau of Land Management's hard rock mining bonding regulations. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Interior: John Leshy, Solicitor; and David Alberswerth, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary, Land and Minerals Management; and Jere Glover, Chief Counsel, Office of Advocacy, SBA.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands approved for full Committee action the following bills: H.R. 822, amended, to facilitate a land exchange involving private land within the exterior boundaries of Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County, WA; H.R. 951, to require the Secretary of the Interior to exchange certain lands located in Hinsdale, Colorado; H.R. 960, amended, to validate certain conveyances in the city of Tulare, Tulare County, California; H.R. 1110, Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; and H.R. 1198, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey land to the City of Grants Pass, Oregon.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE AUTHORITIES—COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT

Committee on Rules: Ordered reported, by a record vote of 9 to 3, H. Res. 167, providing special investigative authorities for the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Technology held a hearing on Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997. Testimony was heard from Gary Bachula, Acting Under Secretary, Technology, Technology Administration, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

BUDGET SCORING RULES—REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Public Buildings and Economic Development held a hearing to review the Budget scoring rules as they relate to real estate transactions. Testimony was heard from Jacob J. Lew, Deputy Director, OMB.

**PERSIAN GULF WAR VETERANS—
VETERANS' AFFAIRS' TREATMENT**

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing on the Veterans' Affairs' provision of treatment for Persian Gulf war veterans with difficult to diagnose and ill-defined conditions. Testimony was heard from Stephen P. Backhus, Director, Veterans' Affairs and Military Health Care Issues, GAO; Maj. Charles C. Engel, Jr., M.D., USA, Chief, Gulf War Health Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Department of the Army; Kenneth Kizer, M.D., Under Secretary, Health, Department of Veterans Affairs; representatives of veterans organizations; and a public witness.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D618)

S. 543, to provide certain protections to volunteers, nonprofit organizations, and governmental entities in lawsuits based on the activities of volunteers. Signed June 18, 1997. (P.L. 105-19)

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY,
JUNE 20, 1997**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget, business meeting, to mark up proposed legislation to provide for reconciliation pursuant to H. Con. Res. 84, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 1998 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, 10 a.m., SD-608.

House

Committee on Banking and Financial Services, to continue markup of Financial Modernization legislation, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, to report Reconciliation Recommendations pursuant to the Fiscal Year 1998 Budget Resolution, 10:30 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, to markup the following: the Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act; and H.R. 1835, Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act, 9:30 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Task Force on Ethics Reform, hearing on Ethics Reform proposals, 9:30 a.m., H-313 Capitol.